

I should sometime ago have had hope, that it would have given you pleasure to hear I had a fine Daughter born on the 22d. of December, and that both Mother & child have been since in remarkable good health.

I have now only to add (which I cannot but do with particular earnestness, as this may possibly be my last letter), that whatever may be your sentiments towards me I shall never cease to pray for your prosperity & welfare, and that I ever am,

with the greatest respect, Most dear & honoured Sir [Your sincerely]
affectionate Nephew

J. I.

FC, Johnson Collection, NCSA. Printed, McRee, 2:134-137. Endorsed "Copy of a Letter to my Uncle Iredell, Feb. 23d. 1786."

¹Jl arrived in Edenton in 1768 to fill the post of comptroller of customs, while Henry Eustace McCulloh held the superior position of collector of customs. McCulloh, however, had returned to England in 1767 leaving Jl to perform the duties of both positions as well as taking care of McCulloh's personal business. Jl acquiesced to this arrangement, no doubt, because McCulloh and his family had secured the job for him. They had also helped him financially in other ways at a time when Jl's immediate family faced economic difficulties. In addition, Jl was only seventeen when he came to America and probably lacked the confidence to challenge this arrangement. McCulloh finally relinquished the collectorship to Jl in 1774. *PJI*, 1:xxxvii, xlviii, lv.

From Archibald Maclaine

Wilmington 6th. March 1786

Dear Sir

Blyth being some time absent, and never having given me proper instructions, & having no copies of the proceedings at New Bern court, I am not able to make out a bill in equity as I would wish it should be done¹—I have however sent you a sketch which I believe <will> contains the substance; and I must rely upon you to let me amend it in any <form> /matter/ that may be deficient, filling up blanks &c

I do not at present see Mr. Burgwin's case in a very desperate point of view, considered in itself; but I think he has every thing to fear from the Judges. On a plea of his disability to sue under the last clause of the court law, for that he had withdrawn to avoid giving his assistance to the State, and had resided in the british dominions, both these facts were found against him, though there was not the least proof of the first; and it now lies